



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

December 2022 Newsletter

Upcoming:

January 13: Bioenno Batteries presentation **via Zoom**. (See more info in this newsletter)

February 10: Our annual report from CES, by Dave Arland. (location TBA)

Highlights from the December Meeting/Party:

The Meeting/Party was held at the Salvation Army EDS facility, and was kicked off at 7:00 pm by club Vice-President, Dave Miller, K9RTT, with a welcome and prayer. There were 24 in attendance. There were several door prizes awarded: Ron Beam, KD9ARI and Mark Bailey, AD9BG won Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra tickets, donated by the ISO; John Shouse, W9JS won an ARRL Handbook donated courtesy of Indiana Section Manager, Bob Burns, AK9R; Jeff Hammer, N9NIC won the Yaesu FT-4X HT. Jim Brown, W0RLD won the 50/50 drawing of \$50. There was PLENTY of food, no one should have gone away hungry! After dinner, Jeff Hammer led a fun game of *Jeopardy!*, with prizes furnished by Voxx, courtesy of Jim Rinehart, K9RU.

Jim Brown took several high quality photos throughout the evening, like the following one of the attendees. To see all of Jim's photos, point your browser to <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjAiD1p> You can download any of the photos to your device. Thanks to Jim for providing this great service!



Ham Radio News:

ANNUAL RADIO CLUB DUES ARE PAYABLE ANY TIME

Several members paid their dues at the Christmas party, which is a good idea. Annual dues to the Indianapolis Radio Club are payable any time. Dues are credited per calendar year, so if you are not currently a paid-up member, any payment made now will pay your dues through the end of 2023. If you are currently paid-up, any payment made now will extend your membership by another year. You can always check your current membership status by going to <https://tinyurl.com/radio-club-members>. Individual dues are \$20 per year, family dues (for all family members residing at the same address) are \$30 per year, Student membership (with valid student ID) is \$10. Dues can be paid via PayPal payment addressed to treasurer@indyradioclub.org, cash at a meeting, or check (made out to Indianapolis Radio Club) either at a meeting or mailed to: Indianapolis Radio Club, 7405 E. County Road 900 N, Brownsburg, IN 46112.

LEARN ABOUT BATTERIES AT OUR JANUARY MEETING

You probably have heard of, or better yet participated in, Parks on the Air (POTA) park activations. Unless you set up in a shelter that has power, you always need a battery (or two) to power your gear for these activations. Bioenno Power is a manufacturer of LiFePO₄ (lithium iron phosphate) batteries for use with ham radio applications, based in Santa Ana, California. Kevin Zanjani, National Sales Manager for Bioenno Power, will be giving a presentation to us via Zoom on January 10, 2023. Kevin's presentation will provide an overview of LiFePO₄ batteries and answer many of the frequently asked questions about their batteries. Bioenno will also provide a door prize that will be shipped out.

Watch your email for the link to the meeting.

LIVE, ON-LINE EXTRA CLASS LICENSING COURSE COMING

A free, weekly, live, Amateur Radio Extra Class Licensing course on Zoom will begin on Thursday, January 12, 2023, and will run through Thursday, March 23. There will be 11 sessions. The three-hour sessions will start at 6:30 PM Eastern Time. Sessions will be recorded. Those attending should hold (or be studying for) the General Class Amateur Radio License. These are the popular classes that have been held for years sponsored by the National Electronics Museum. Please publicize this with anyone that you think would be interested. Those wishing to sign up should email roland.anders@comcast.net.

WRTC 2023 AWARD EVENT COMING IN JANUARY

A fun operating event is coming up starting January 1: The WRTC 2023 Award Event. This is not to be confused with the actual World Radiosport Team Championship, being held in July in Italy, but it's being held to get folks fired up for "the main event". The WRTC 2023 Award Event is going to be a fun, special event style event with over 30 callsigns being on the air during the month of January. To get more information on this event, go to <https://www.wrtc2022.it/en/wrtc-2023-award-31.asp>

NEW GENERAL CLASS QUESTION POOL THIS SUMMER

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' (NCVEC) Question Pool Committee (QPC) has released the 2023 - 2027 General Class FCC Element 3 Syllabus and Question Pool to the public. The new General Question Pool is effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027.

The new pool incorporates some significant changes compared to the 2019 - 2023 version. Its 432 questions were modified slightly to improve wording and to replace distractors; 51 new questions were generated, and 73 questions were eliminated. This resulted in a reduction of 22 questions, bringing the total number of questions in the pool down from 454. The level of difficulty of questions is more balanced, and the techniques and practices addressed have been updated.

The pool is available as a Microsoft Word document and PDF online at, <http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=369>. The single graphic required for the new General Question Pool is available within the documents, or separately as PDF and JPG file formats.

NEW ARRL WEBSITE TO LEARN ABOUT HOBBY

I recently heard of a new (or at least new to me) website by the ARRL, <https://learn.arrl.org/>. This site, as the URL implies, is available to learn more about our hobby. Courses are available in the main categories of “Getting on the Air”, “Emergency Communications”, and “Electronics and Technology”. Some of the courses are available to non-members of the ARRL, but full access to all of the courses requires an active ARRL membership.

Don't forget, if you aren't an ARRL member, but want to join, or want to renew your membership, you can earn the Indianapolis Radio Club a “commission”. Contact Ken Bandy, KJ9B at treasurer@indyradioclub.org for details.

NEW AMATEUR RADIO PODCAST “DX MENTOR”

There is a new ham radio podcast coming hosted by Bill Salyers, AJ8B, called “DX Mentor”. If you’re interested in becoming a DXer, or want to see if you want to be a DXer, you may want to check this out.

According to the promo material, each podcast will focus on a specific topic and will have several guests to discuss and analyze the topic at hand. These guests are considered among the top in the subject matter and will discuss it so that the entry level DXer and the seasoned DXer will learn something as well.

The introductory edition of The DX Mentor is available now. Go to your favorite Podcast service, download The DX Mentor and subscribe. When the first edition drops on January 8th, 2023, you’ll be ready to go.

“SHORTS”

From the QSO Today 2021 Virtual Hamfest, is an educational video about the history of amateur radio call signs. Available at <https://youtu.be/Su76QvChuEU> Thanks to Mike Wetzel, W9RE, for bringing it up.

Go to http://www.4sqrp.com/Battery_Capacity/index.php for a useful online calculator to estimate battery life for different types of radio activity and different battery capacities.

For an interesting show produced by Montana PBS portraying ham radio in Montana, point your browser to <https://www.montanapbs.org/programs/ham/>

If you’re a POTA enthusiast, here’s another reason to work the 3Y0J Bouvet Island DXpedition in January. It is POTA site LA-2524 (<https://pota.app/#/park/LA-2524>)!

UPCOMING CENTRAL INDIANA TESTING SESSIONS (check with sponsor before planning to attend)

Anderson IN 46016-2238
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club
Date: Dec 20 2022

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Stephen M. Riley
(765) 425-4627
Email: wa9cwe@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Madison County EOC
200 Delaware St
Anderson IN 46016-2238

Bloomington IN 47401-5337
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc
Date: Jan 07 2023
Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: William F. Wootton
(812) 876-8689
Email: wfwootton@gmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: First United Church - Call or email ahead due to COVID-19
2420 E 3rd St
Register at 11:30am
Testing at 12 NOON
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Indianapolis IN 46218-2169
Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio club W9JP
Date: Jan 14 2023
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: James K. Rinehart
(317) 721-1458
Email: k9ru@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility
4020 Georgetown Rd
Indianapolis IN 46218-2169

Noblesville IN 46060-1624

Sponsor: Central Indiana ARA/ HCRACES
Date: Jan 14 2023
Time: 10:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Joseph March
(317) 224-9433
Email: jmarch54@att.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Hamilton Cty Emer Operations Ctr
18100 Cumberland Rd
Sheriff's Campus Training Room
CALL AHEAD
Noblesville IN 46060-1624

Greenfield IN 46140-9654
Sponsor: Hancock County ARC
Date: Jan 21 2023
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: David Keiser
(317) 440-8486
Email: kc9urp@hrtc.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Hancock EMA EOC
640 South Franklin St
Greenfield IN 46140-9654

FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews_indyradioclub.org.

SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at kj9b@arrl.net

Signals from the Past:

From the January, 1982 AMA-CHEWER:

Among several rule changes recently acted upon by the FCC, the one affecting most amateurs is the matter of station identification, Docket 80-136. Amateurs hereafter only will be required to identify every 10 minutes during and at the end of the QSO. This does not mean there cannot be more identification if desired, but this is all that is required. ... This does not apply to international third party traffic, then the other station must be identified so the monitors can determine if you are operating to a country with which the USA has a third party agreement.

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- Hendricks County Hamfest: February 11, 2023, at the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds Conference Center. Go to <https://n9hc.org/> for more information.

2022 and 2023 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – president@indyradioclub.org
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - vp@indyradioclub.org
- Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - secretary@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – board@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - board@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB - board@indyradioclub.org
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org